

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, EGEN, XM, AORG

SUBJECT: OASGA SUMMARY: JULY 1, 1978

USDEL 29

1. SIXTH PLENARY SESSION. ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTED THE SIX RESOLUTIONS DESCRIBED IN STATE 166213. WE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THOSE ON A; OAS EXPORT PROMOTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, O; PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE EVENTUAL SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND ON PERU'S INITIATIVE OUTLINING INTER-AMERICAN CONSULTATION PROCEDURES FOR ECONOMIC SITUATIONS THAT MAY ARISE.

2. WE OPPOSED RESOLUTIONS ON SUGAR AND ON PROTECTIONISM THAT WERE PARTIALLY AIMED AT THE UNITED STATES. WE ALSO OPPOSED THE RESOLUTION ON TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES THAT FAILED TO ACCORD IN ITS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS ANY WEIGHT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 168858

THE U.S. POSITION COMPARED TO THE LATIN AMERICAN POSITION, EVEN THOUGH THE APPENDIX RECITING U.S. OBSERVATIONS ON THE LATIN AMERICAN GUIDELINES WAS RETAINED. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BOTH THE LATIN GUIDELINES AND THE U.S. OBSERVATIONS DATE FROM JANUARY 1975, AND THERE HAS BEEN NO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION WITHIN THE OAS SINCE THEN.

3. THE U.S. ABSTAINED ON THE RESOLUTION REQUESTING GSP ELIGIBILITY FOR ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA, WHICH HAS BECOME A PERENNIAL. WE JOINED IN A UNANIMOUS CONFIRMATION OF AN EXPERT LEVEL MEETING NEXT OCTOBER TO REVIEW EXPERIENCE WITH GSP, A MEETING ALREADY DECIDED UPON AT THE CECON MEETING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC LAST APRIL. WE ALSO VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY, AND PANAMA ABSTAINED, ON A RENEWED REQUEST TO THE SECRETARIAT TO COMPLETE A STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF EARLIER PANAMA CANAL TOLL INCREASES.

4. ON BUDGETARY AFFAIRS, AS EXPECTED A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIFICALLY TO DEAL WITH ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS INCLUDING THE 1979 BUDGET WAS CONVOKED FOR AN UNSPECIFIED LATER DATE, MOST LIKELY TOWARD THE END OF THIS YEAR. BY THE TERMS OF ANOTHER RESOLUTION, THIS SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION IS TO RECEIVE A PERMANENT COUNCIL REPORT ON BASES OF FINANCING THE ORGANIZATION, WITH A RECOMMENDED FINANCING FORMULA. THIS IS THE CONTROVERSIAL ITEM DEALING WITH OUR NEED TO REDUCE THE U.S. TWO-THIRDS SHARE OF THE REGULAR FUND. WE SUCCESSFULLY OVERCAME EFFORTS TO HAVE THIS MATTER PUT BACK TO THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH WILL PROBABLY NOT BE UNTIL LATE 1979. VANCE

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